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## Information Regarding Proposed Repeal of Permanent COVID-19 Regulations

On February 16, 2022, the Department of Labor and Industry's (DOLI) Safety and Health Codes Board met and took the following action:

- Determined COVID-19 no longer poses a "grave danger" to employees based on Virginia's strong vaccination rates compared to other states (10th in the country as of 02/05/2022) and other studies that conclude the Omicron variant is less severe, results in shorter hospital stays and less likely to result in ICU admissions.
- Proposed the COVID-19 permanent regulations should be repealed
- Authorized a 30 day written comment period and public hearing prior to any final vote to repeal the regulations.

## **Next Steps:**

- 30 day public comment period begins February 17, 2022 and will end on March 19, 2022.
  - The public is invited to register its comments on the proposed repeal of the COVID-19 regulations as adopted by the Board by using the comment forum HERE.
- There will be a public hearing held in the next 30 days.
   Refer to the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website for meeting notifications HERE.
- Final Vote to Repeal will be taken at 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting following the 30 day public comment period.

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